

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
SENATE BILL NO. 566
96TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Reported from the Committee on Agriculture, Food Production and Outdoor Resources, March 22, 2012, with recommendation that the Senate Committee Substitute do pass.

4598S.05C

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

AN ACT

To amend chapter 322, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to vaccination of dogs and cats against rabies.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 322, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 322.005, to read as follows:

322.005. 1. As used in this section, the following terms shall mean:

- (1) "Cat", any domestic feline animal (felis catus);**
- (2) "Dog", any domestic canine animal (canis familiaris);**
- (3) "Harbor", the same definition as in section 578.005;**
- (4) "Owner", any person who keeps or harbors an animal, but shall not include veterinarians or kennel operators who have temporary custody for a period of less than sixty days of animals owned by other persons;**
- (5) "Statement of exemption from vaccination", a written determination, signed by a veterinarian, that a medical reason exists that precludes the vaccination of the dog or cat. The statement shall include the owner's name and address, a description of the animal, the medical reason that precludes vaccination, the date of determination, and the period of time for which the medical condition is reasonably expected to persist;**
- (6) "Vaccinated against rabies", in receipt of a primary rabies vaccine or receipt of a booster vaccine administered in accordance with the current Compendium of Animal Rabies Prevention and Control prepared by the National Association of State Public Health**

21 Veterinarians. Such rabies vaccinations shall be performed by a
22 veterinarian;

23 (7) "Veterinarian", the same definition as in section 340.200.

24 2. The owner of every dog or cat in this state shall ensure that
25 each such dog or cat is vaccinated against rabies. Each dog or cat shall
26 be vaccinated initially and periodically for rabies:

27 (1) As determined appropriate by a veterinarian based on the
28 age of the dog or cat and the type of rabies vaccine administered; or

29 (2) As required by an applicable municipal or county ordinance.
30 Each such vaccination shall be kept current for each dog or cat.

31 3. It shall not be considered a violation of this section for an
32 owner to have a dog or cat that is not vaccinated for rabies if such
33 owner possesses a current statement of exemption from vaccination for
34 such animal, however if exposure occurs, the dog or cat is considered
35 to be nonvaccinated.

✓
Bill

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